

Town of Thurston Meeting Minutes  
Held: Wednesday March 18, 2020 at 7:00 P.M.  
Location: 7578 County Route 333, Thurston

Present: Town Supervisor: Wendy Lozo  
Town Council Members: Michael Volino, Paul Peck  
Town Highway Superintendent: Richard Gauss, Jr.  
Town Dog Control Officer:  
Town Attorney:  
Town Code Officer:  
Town Historian: Michael Volino

Absent: Ray Orr, Randy Akins, Shawn Sauro, Noel Sylvester, Holly Chase

Visitors: Tom Lozo, Gary Lewis

Wendy Lozo called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. The Board opened with the US Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment: Nothing

Minutes: Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Michael Volino to accept and approve the Board meeting minutes dated February 19, 2020. Put to vote: Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye. Carried.

Bills Payable: Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Michael Volino for Wendy Lozo to pay all claims listed in the General abstract A053- A069 totaling \$14,285.33 and the Highway abstract 045-061 totaling \$67,290.59. Put to vote: Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye. Carried.

Clerk's Report: February 2020 monthly report was presented to the Board. Total deposits were \$635.00.

Justice Report: February 2020 monthly report was presented to the Board. Justice Sweeney collected \$1,001.00. There was no breakdown of monies dispersed. NYS cancelled Justice Court through April 30, 2020 because of COVID-19 pandemic.

Tax Collector Report: Final collection dates are March 25, 2020 and March 31, 2020 from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

Assessor Report: Nothing

Historian Report: Michael Volino requested the Board consider the possibility of him volunteering to push mow the grass at Bonny Hill and County Route 12 cemeteries. A receipt from Haughy Memorials for the Merchant's headstone down payment of \$250.00 was given to the Town Clerk.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report: Ray Orr turned in 2 building permits totaling \$354.00.

Dog Control Officer's Report: Randy Akins reported 4 missing dogs and collected \$14.00 in dog license fees.

Supervisor's Report: February 2020 monthly report was emailed to each of the Board members and a hard copy was presented to the Clerk.

Highway Superintendent's Report: February 2020 monthly report was presented to the Board. Items of interest and work performed 02/19/20-03/17/2020. Town roads were checked 10 times, plowed and sanded 4 times. The Town Hall steps and sidewalks were deiced 2 times. The Town of Rathbone sent a man over with their excavator with a brush head on it to help cut trees and brush along several of Thurston roads. One and a half miles on Yost road was cleared, 1 mile on Starr road, and ¾ mile on Harrison road was also cleared. It took 5 days to complete. Several ditches were cleared of snow by Thurston's excavator to keep water running in the ditch. Water washes were repaired on Starr and Reed Hill roads. Twelve loads of number 3 stone have been used to repair soft spots on Cahill road. Number 3 stone has been used to repair soft areas on Shauger road also. A load of number 2 stone and a load of item 4 gravel have been graded into an area on the bottom of Green Hill road. A section of ditch line on Starr and Harrison roads were cleaned. Eight side panels and 4 axel housing steps on the grader were repaired, rebuilt, and painted. A complaint about dirt pushed up in a turnaround on Lewis road was addressed, cleaned up, and the land owner was satisfied. A trailer from Wades was rented to pick up the Tenco side dump box. The box is being mounted on a truck and will be painted by Goodrich for \$4,500.00. The following equipment repairs were made: New blade circle wear plates were installed on the grader and all the body panels were redone. The conveyor chain was repaired on the 01 Auto Car. The 2015 F350 had new tires mounted by All Season Tire. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Michael Volino to accept and approve the Clerk's report through the Highway Superintendent's report. Put to vote: Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye. Carried.

Old Business: Wendy Lozo stated that a resolution needed to be made to transfer \$28,000.00 from the Equipment Reserve Fund to the Machinery Equipment Fund for the new Tenco side dump box. Motion/Resolution was made by Paul Peck seconded by Michael Volino for Wendy Lozo to transfer \$28,000.00 from the Equipment Reserve Fund to the Machinery Equipment Fund. Put to vote: Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye. Carried. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Michael Volino for an Ad to be put in the paper for Town Hall and Cemetery lawn maintenance with bid responses due by April 15, 2020. Put to vote: Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye. Carried. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Michael Volino to close old business. Put to vote: Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye. Carried.

New Business: Wendy Lozo stated that the CCC Regional Leadership Conference has been cancelled due to COVID-19. Wendy Lozo stated that Sara Burgess contacted her for permission to use the Town Hall parking lot to distribute food to the Thurston area residents. Wendy Lozo stated that she as Town Supervisor has the power to call a state of emergency during life safety

situations such as the COVID-19 pandemic. Lozo asked for a resolution to cancel Board meetings if and when the need arises and to be able to pay reoccurring bills. Motion/Resolution was made by Paul Peck seconded by Michael Volino for Wendy Lozo to cancel Board meetings when needed and pay reoccurring bills. Put to vote: Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye. Carried. Wendy Lozo stated that the Town Hall rental should be suspended until further notice. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Michael Volino to suspend Town Hall rentals until further notice. Gorden Foster's baby shower will need to be suspended at this time. Put to vote: Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye. Carried. The Town Hall will remain open for local government business unless the NYS Governor mandates otherwise. Wendy Lozo stated that the highway crew can use up to 3 weeks off without a doctor's note and reimbursement for COVID-19 illness expenses. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Michael Volino for the three weeks absence with no doctor's note and qualifying reimbursements. Put to vote: Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye. Carried. Wendy Lozo stated that the 50% reduction in staff in the Town of Thurston does not fall within the NYS requirements. Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Michael Volino to close new business. Put to vote: Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye. Carried.

Motion was made by Paul Peck seconded by Michael Volino to adjourn the regular board meeting at 7:35 p.m. Put to vote: Paul Peck, aye; Wendy Lozo, aye; Michael Volino, aye. Carried

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by Dolores Crooker, Town Clerk